

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, and 13-20 remain pending and under current examination.

In the Office Action,¹ the Examiner:

- (a) objected to the drawings;
- (b) objected to claims 3 and 7 for informalities;
- (c) rejected claims 1, 3, 7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,900,843 to Uchiyama in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,715,939 to Ford; and
- (d) indicated that claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 10-12 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant traverses the objections and rejection, though responds as follows in order to advance prosecution.

Objection to the Drawings:

Applicant has amended Fig. 1 to include the legend “Prior Art,” as required by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant files herewith one (1) sheet of drawings, labeled “Replacement Sheet,” containing amended Fig. 1. Applicant requests that this replacement sheet be made of official record in the above-identified patent application.

Regarding the objection to Fig. 4, Applicant notes that the description in the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 17-21 and 24-26, describes Fig. 4 as an embodiment of the claimed invention, and not as prior art. Moreover, the reference to “FIG. 4” in the Background section of the application at page 3, line 16, is clearly a typographical error (corrected by amendment

¹ The Office Action may contain statements characterizing the related art, case law, and claims. Regardless of whether any such statements are specifically identified herein, Applicant declines to automatically subscribe to any statements in the Office Action.

herein), since the drawing items referenced in that paragraph clearly refer instead to Fig. 1. Therefore, Applicant has not amended Fig. 4 to include the legend “Prior Art,” and deems the objection overcome. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Objection to Claims 3 and 7:

The Examiner objected to claims 3 and 7 for informalities. In response, Applicant has amended claim 3 to recite “when the ~~main body camera unit~~ is accommodated in the recess,” and amended claim 7 in part to delete the typographical error of the same element appearing twice in the claim. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner’s indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 10-12.² In response, Applicant notes that claim 1 has been amended to include the elements of allowable claim 2, and claim 7 has been amended to include the elements of allowable claim 8.

Regarding new claims 13-20, claim 13 includes the elements of allowable claim 4; claim 15 includes the elements of allowable claim 10; claim 17 includes the elements of allowable claim 11; and claim 19 includes the elements of allowable claim 12. New claims 14, 16, 18, and 20 are allowable at least due to their respective dependence from base claim 13, 15, 17, or 19.

² The Examiner indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten “to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.” Office Action, p. 5. Applicant notes, however, that there is no 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, rejection in this Office Action.

Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 7, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Without conceding to the Examiner's arguments in this rejection, Applicant deems this rejection overcome at least due to the incorporation of the subject matter of allowable claim 2 into claim 1, and allowable claim 8 into claim 7. Claims 3 and 9 are allowable at least by virtue of their respective dependence from base claim 1 or 7. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection.

Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing, Applicant requests reconsideration of the application and withdrawal of the objections and rejection. Pending claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, and 13-20 are in condition for allowance, and Applicant requests a favorable action.

If there are any remaining issues or misunderstandings, Applicant requests the Examiner telephone the undersigned representative to discuss them.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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